Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Why should there be a preference shown? Just like any other person, Government societies or for that matter other societies need not be shown any preference.

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* These societies being Government managed or controlled institutions, the Board of Directors probably wanted some preference to be given to them.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* What is the extent of the amount of shares to which such preference has been shown?

Mr. President: We have not even given them any advice. We have actually nothing to do with them. It is absolutely done by the Board. Hon'ble members should not ask questions under presumption, that this preference to certain applicants was shown at the instance of Government. We have nothing to do with it.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* What is the rate of interest?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Four per cent.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* The Defence of India Bonds are sold at 3 per cent.

Mr. President: The Defence of India Bonds are for a period of 6 years, whereas here it is for 20 years.

MALAYALAM SHORTHAND—INSTRUCTION IN SCHOOLS AND PERSONS QUALIFIED IN

261. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether Malayalam shorthand is taught in the commercial section of the G. T. School, Trichur, G. T. School, Ernakulam, or any of the Government High Schools;

(*b*) the number of persons in the Police Department who know Malayalam shorthand?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) No.

(*b*) 6.

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